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Burgos, Jr., Jose, "We Forum, vol iii No.26" (1979). *We Forum*. 41.
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SABI NI 'SIR'

But a people, it must be pointed out, can be conquered and thus governed without their consent. This subjugation may continue for ages, until at some glorious time, the people become powerful enough to liberate themselves.

Pres. Marcos, Today's Revolution: Democracy



the national weekly
FORUM
of free expression

CANOY'S COLUMN

Assemblyman Reuben Canoy's column "Majority of One" won't appear in this issue. The columnist is in Mindanao and is expected to resume his column in our next issue.—EDITOR.

VOL. III NO. 26

PCPM Certificate of Registration No. 387

FOR THE WEEK OCT. 20-26 1979

50 CVOS. IN METRO MANILA

PROSPECTS BRIGHT

To release Ninoy soon?

Cardinal Sin's homily on Ninoy



(Homily delivered by His Eminence, Jaime L. Cardinal Sin, Archbishop of Manila, during the Mass celebrating the Silver Jubilee of Ninoy and Cory Aquino, held at the Aquino residence on Times Street, on October 11, 1979.)

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

We are all gathered here today to see Ninoy and Cory celebrate their silver jubilee as a married couple. Twenty-five years ago today, these two wonderful people promised to love, honor and obey each other, "for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse," until death do them part.

We who know and love Ninoy and Cory are

aware, intensely and even painfully aware, of how they have lived up to the words they uttered on their wedding day. We know that they have gone through trials so excruciating that lesser spirits would have crumpled and given up. But we also know — and we say this most proudly and gloriously — that Ninoy and Cory have emerged greater and better persons because

(Page 5, please)

Negotiations for the release of detained opposition leader, ex-Sen. Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., have been resumed and the prospects for his liberty are "bright."

According to reliable WE sources, the 47-year-old Aquino's release "is just a matter of time" — barring unforeseen circumstances.

The reports of Aquino's release from his detention cell at Fort Bonifacio, gained credence last week following approval by President Marcos of a 32-hour pass for the opposition leader to celebrate his 25th wedding anniversary in

his house on Times st., West Triangle Homes, Quezon City last October 11. With the approved furlough, Aquino left his cell at 10 a.m., Wednesday, October 10, stayed home overnight and returned to prison at 6 p.m., Thursday.

The Aquino's wedding anniversary celebration was attended by relatives, friends and sympathizers. (Page 6, please)

FURLOUGH — Opposition leader ex-Sen. Benigno Aquino, Jr., who was given a 32-hour furlough, is kissed by wife Cory during their 25th wedding anniversary celebration held in the Aquino residence in Q.C. last Oct. 11. (UPI Photo)

The burden of taxes

(Paper presented before the Business Forum, FEU Oct. 1, 1979)

by TITO GUINGONA

This paper covers specific taxes on petroleum/oil products.

In the wake of each increase in the price of petroleum from abroad, the government has consistently imposed a corresponding increase of revenue measures. As a result, substantial amounts have been and are being

exacted from the populace — swelling public coffers. In 1973 the specific tax collected from oils and other fuels amounted to P253 million annually. This grew to P483 million in 1974, to P789 million in 1975, to P860 million in 1976 — and to one billion pesos (Page 3, please)

FOR CLEAN, FREE POLLS

The sacrament of legitimacy

by NAPOLEON G. RAMA
PART II

Thus, the question that intrudes at this point is whether the last April 7, 1978 election, the only election held under the Martial Law regime achieved President Marcos' primary purpose to normalize the government. Has it lent a mantle of legitimacy to the present government?

The best way to answer this question is to recall and review what took place during that April 7 election. Let us for lack of time and for our intimacy with the facts, dwell on the election conduct in Metro Manila. This venue for our purpose here acc-

(Page 5, please)

NUDF STATEMENT

The time is now

(The following is the official statement of the National Union for Democracy and Freedom prepared on the occasion of the anniversary of martial law. Signatories are ex-Pres. Diosdado Macapagal, ex-Sens. Lorenzo Tañada, Jovito Salonga, Gerry Roxas, Soc Rodrigo, Eva Estrada Kalaw, ex-Rep. Rogaciano Mercado and ex-Concon delegates Abraham Sarmiento and Aquilino Pimentel, Jr.—ED)

PART III

Key military officials in the first year of martial law depicted the military as the most disciplined unit of society; the military officer was to be our archetype and model.

With the imposition of martial law, the military assumed the commanding role. Congress was

paralyzed by the military. All the agencies and instrumentalities of the government, including the entire judiciary, were placed under the control and direction of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. Mass media — newspapers, radio and television station — (Page 5, please)

RP ECONOMIC SITUATION

Regression

By ALEJANDRO LICHAUICO
(Prepared for the Liguori Lectures)

(6th of a Series)

As mentioned previously, on the basis of NEDA's statistics, we can conclude that between 1975 and 1978, regression, and not merely stagnation, started with the decline of the contribution of Manufacturing from 19.7% in 1975 to 19.2% in 1978. But the Asian Wall Street Journal reports that the share of Manufacturing for 1978 was actually only 18.6%.

"Overall Manufacturing, projected to take on an increasing role in domestic production, actually saw its share of total output fall slightly to 18.6% in 1978 from 19.4% in 1975." (Aug. 15, 1979)

There is another disturbing indicator of regression. (Page 6, please)

WE LETTER

In defense of Sin

October 13, 1979

The Editor
WE, Forum

Dear Sir:

We, the undersigned, have been offended by the recent attacks on Cardinal Sin's right to speak out on vital issues that directly affect our welfare and that of our families in particular, and the country in general. Hence, this letter.

Recently our Cardinal has come out asking President Marcos to work out some orderly way by which democracy can be restored to this country. He warned that, otherwise, there might be civil war and bloodshed. We were happy to hear our Cardinal express views and fears which we believe are in the (Page 5, please)

The benefits of martial law

(Speech before the Manila Rotary club Sept. 20, 1979)

By ADRIAN E. CRISTOBAL
CONCLUSION

Here we come to the core of my subject.

No serious thinker today addresses his genius to the question of the ideal society. But up to the last century, mankind's great thinkers seriously considered it. There was Plato's "Republic," criticized by some as a model of a totalitarian state; St. Augustine's "City of God," and, of course, More's

"Utopia". These were societies that man, in his creative genius and moral perfectibility, could aspire to. With our century, however, "Utopia" became "Erehwon," or nowhere, the brave new world of Huxley, and the 1984 of Orwell. The ideal society was no longer a dream. It had become a nightmare. (Page 3, please)

At a glance • At a glance

* JOAQUIN R. ROCES
POEM ON REVAMP IN GOV'T P. 2



Editorial

WHAT ABOUT THE GOOD COPS?

Because of the shenanigans of a few misfits, the police forces of the entire country have been pilloried in so many newspaper columns. The dismal result is that the ordinary honest and committed policeman has been downgraded before the eyes of the public.

Yet, if we closely look at the situation obtaining in the rank and file of the law enforcement agencies, we will realize that there are more good cops than bad ones.

While it is true that there are dishonest, abusive and venal men in uniform (and their likes should be immediately wiped out from the force), there are truly dedicated law enforcers who have managed to maintain their integrity and performed their tasks unselfishly in the most commendable manner. In fact, out of the more than 50,000 policemen throughout the country, only 2,600 are facing charges before the National Police Commission and some of them are victims of harrassments from certain quarters with axes to grind.

It is incumbent on the part of the public to expose the corrupt policemen but it is also every citizen's responsibility to recognize and appreciate the fact that there are also good cops who are willing to lay down their lives to secure peace and order in the community

comments

NALUMA ANG WALIS

Noon bago ang walis ng ating lipunan
Maraming naalis dahil sa katwalian
Naluma na yata iyang walis na iyan
Walis nang walis, bihira ang naalis
Sa katungkulan

Maraming 'corruption' sa mga tanggapan
Ang pagkukurakot ay harap-harapan
'Revamp' at 'Reshuffle' na walang katapusan
Wala namang napaparusahan

Bakit hindi nila mahigpitan
Katulad ng mga kinulong nila sa pilitan
Ng Bagong Diwa na nasa Bicutan
Ano ang kanilang kinatatakutan?

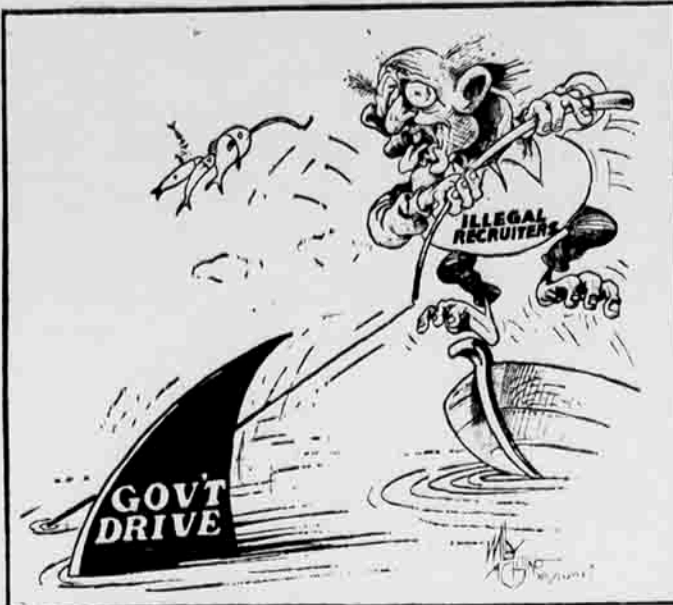
Joaquin R. Roces 1979

WE is published weekly by the J. BURGOS MEDIA SERVICES with editorial and business offices at Mezzanine, National Press Club Bldg., Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila. Tel. No. 47-45-33. Registered as a second class mail matter at the Manila Central Post Office on Nov. 27, 1978. PCPM Certificate of Registration No. 387.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: ₱24, one year; ₱12, 6 months. Home delivered subscription: ₱50.00 one year (for Metro Manila residents only).

JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.
Publisher-Editor

TO SEEK AND LIVE THE TRUTH AND SHARE
A VISION.



Times-Journal

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



FM'S LIBEL CASE VS. 'TIME'

by JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.

The following is the continuation of the libel complaint filed by President Marcos against TIME Magazine in 1971 (Civil Case No. 83599) pending before Branch VI of the Court of First Instance of Manila:

PART II

Plaintiff Ferdinand E. Marcos is a family man. He was admitted to the Bar of the Philippines in 1940 and has had extensive law practice. He served in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. At the start of World War II, he was inducted into the USAFFE as Third Lieutenant, thereafter received combat promotions to First Lieutenant, to Captain, and later to Major. He served with distinction in the battlefields of Bataan. After the surrender of the USAFFE, he escaped with other officers and men from the Japanese Imperial Forces, but was captured and taken as a prisoner of war. Immediately after release from concentration camp, he was incarcerated by the Japanese Military Police (Kempeitai) in Fort Santiago. Taken to Quezon Province (then known as Tayabas), he escaped and became active in the resistance movement. He is a decorated military officer, having been awarded the Philippine Distinguished Conduct Star (the highest Philippine military combat decoration), the American Distinguished Service Cross and 25 other military combat decorations. He was a member of the Philippine Veterans Mission to the United States in 1947.

Since 1949, he has occupied positions of responsibility in the government of the Republic of the Philippines, namely:

From December 30, 1949 to December 30, 1959, as a member of House of Representatives;
From December 30, 1959 to December 30, 1965, as a Senator of the Philippines;
From April 6, 1963 to December 30, 1965, as President of the Senate.

In the November elections of 1965, he received a mandate from the people of the Philippines to become the President of the Republic of the Philippines. He was at the helm of the government of the Republic of the Philippines, for his first term, from December 30, 1965 to December 30, 1969. In the November elections of 1969, he was re-elected President of the Philippines. He continues to discharge his duties as such President up to the present, Ferdinand E. Marcos is known the world over as the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

Defendant TIME, INC. is the owner of and prints, publishes and circulates, and causes to be printed, published and circulated, a weekly news-magazine internationally known as "TIME". Said weekly news-magazine has a wide circulation in the Philippines, more particularly in the City of Manila and its suburbs. "TIME" weekly news-magazine is also widely circulated in Australia, Burma, Ceylon, China, Guam, Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Okinawa, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Wake Island, the United States of America, Canada, Mexico, the countries of the Caribbean and the West Indies, the Middle East, and all the countries in Africa, Europe and Central and South America.

Defendant TIME, INC. printed, published and circulated, and caused to be printed, published and circulated in "TIME" weekly news-magazine, in its issue dated April 12, 1971, a full-page article or news item, on page 33 thereof, under the boldly printed headline "THE PHILIPPINES", below which is the subheading "Prescription for Revolution", thus —

VIEW-POINT



DEPUTY MINISTER BARBERO ACTS

By RAUL M. GONZALEZ

There is a minor functionary, assigned with the Philippine consulate in New York who seems to be living it up from sources unknown. I understand this lady is not even a Foreign Service officer but with her charms and right connections she has accumulated substantial fortune to have enabled her to buy an apartment in the Olympic Towers Condominium in Manhattan. I was told that this lady was last scouting for a residential mansion in one of the plush subdivisions in the Pasig area.

The truism is still not what you know but whom you know.

The African state of Nigeria — once rocked by a bitter civil war, has returned to full civil rule recently. The country's military strongman General Obasanjo has graciously returned to the barracks to resume his normal duties as a soldier and restored governmental powers to a purely civilian government. Elections, too were held.

It is really a heart-warming news when one learns about strongmen governments being returned to duly constituted civilian rules and it is even more significant that a more backward state like Nigeria could, in such a relatively short period, cast off the yoke of military rule, restore full civil rights to its people and follow a constitutional civil government. If Nigeria can do this, it is really heartbreaking and exasperating to think that in the Philippines we still have to suffer the constraints of martial law and the usual repression and threats that accompany it.

Defense Deputy Minister Carmelo Z. Barbero, reacting to the expose in this column and a personal letter I sent him, has ordered a probe of the murder of three innocent civilians committed by PC-ICHDF forces in the Municipality of Alimodian in Iloilo. Minister Barbero, hopefully, may be able to restore the shattered faith of the families of the victims in the rule of law and the ways of justice in our country by ordering this probe in close coordination with the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Iloilo Chapter and the Provincial and military authorities in Iloilo.

The probe ordered by Minister Barbero will open on October 16 at the Iloilo Provincial Capitol and the Minister has graciously invited me to join him, together with IBP Southern Luzon governor Jules Sison and Iloilo IBP President Nory Posecion. If the authorities in Iloilo will sincerely cooperate, this investigation will succeed, especially if the suspected perpetrators of the dastardly and senseless killings will be relieved and disarmed so they would not have the opportunity to harass and threaten witnesses.

Unfortunately, even when Minister Barbero has already ordered the investigation, I received information from President Posecion of the Iloilo IBP that there is marked indifference from some quarters whom he has approached to assist in the coming hearings. Posecion has been quite critical of the Mayor of the Municipality of Masin, hometown of the victims, because the mayor seems reluctant and afraid to cooperate; afraid perhaps that the military in Iloilo may become hostile to him.

President Ernesto Salu-nat of the IBP Nueva Vizcaya chapter has informed me that his three clients were invited by the Metrocom for investigation and detained. Eventually criminal charges were filed against his clients before the QC CFI for robbery extortion and the case was assigned to the sala of Judge Tensuan. Bail was recommended and the court ordered the release of the three accused upon their posting of the required bail.

Imagine what happened? The accused, despite bail and release order from the court, are still languishing inside the detention cells of the Metrocom because the military authorities do not give much importance to the orders of civil courts and this case is a classic example of the mockery of judicial processes being perpetrated by the military today.

But the Armed Forces are supposed to be sworn to protect and defend the Constitution. It has been said that martial law was precisely imposed in order to uphold the Constitution. Is defiance of civil court orders protection and upholding of the Constitution?

"THE PHILIPPINES"
"Prescription for Revolution"

"Over the Sibuyan Sea in the central Philippines, two long-haired young Filipinos last week barged into the cockpit of a BAC-One-Eleven jet bound from Manila to the southern island of Mindanao. 'This is a hijack,' said one, pressing a pistol against the pilot's neck. 'Head north — to Peking.' A second youth nervously fingered the aircraft's fire ax, while three others guarded the passengers. Told that the Philippine Air Lines plane

(Page 5, please)

METRO MANILA NEWS



ZIP project in Pasay

PASAY CITY—The long awaited start of the zonal improvement program (ZIP) at Maricaban, which will benefit the 3,366 families in that portion of the CAA compound, will finally get off to a start when Mayor Pablo Cuneta and NHA General Manager Gaudencio Tobias signs a memorandum of agreement for the purpose.

The signing ceremony will be held during a meeting of all families at Maricaban tomorrow night, Oct. 16. The decision on the signing of the memorandum of agreement was reached at a conference between Cuneta and Tobias last Friday night.

According to City Engineer Jesus L. Reyna, who was present during the conference, the agreement to be signed tomorrow night will provide for the immediate undertaking of Phase 1 of the Maricaban ZIP project.

He said that Phase 1 affects one-third of the 18-hectare housing area where some 600 families have their houses. The work will involve the con-

allotted lots were listed during the census taking two years ago when each family was given a card.

Reyna could not say how much the government will charge the families for their lots. He said, however, that since the land is government property, being part of the CAA compound, the cost may be minimal.

What may cost more, according to him, are the infrastructures and other development projects to be introduced into the area. Reyna said the costs of these projects will be added to the price of the land and passed on to the families.

Maricaban used to be a garbage dump site. After Mayor Cuneta was elected mayor in 1971, he converted the 18-hectare land into a housing project, with the assistance of First Lady and Metro Manila Gov. Imelda R. Marcos, for those without houses.

There was a plan last year to use part of Maricaban as the site of a BLISS project but this has been apparently abandoned because of findings that the entire property rests on swampy ground.

PROBE MART IRREGULARITIES

CALOOCAN CITY—Acting City Mayor Virgilio P. Robles has ordered Assistant City Legal Officer Gil E. Calalang, head of the flea market committee, to probe a report that a "group of businesswomen has been collecting money from vendors applying for stalls in the flea market to be set up on 3rd Avenue corner C. Cordero St. in Grace Park. This is the fourth such market to be established in the city.

The "group of businesswomen," said to be led by a wife of a City Hall section chief, were reported collecting P200 to P500 from each vendor-applicant allegedly to betray the cost of the stall and the expenses in getting a permit from the mayor's office.

Robles ordered Calalang to investigate the report after it was published in last Thursday's "Evening Post." The acting mayor expressed surprise, if the report is true, that the vendors should pay the businesswomen P200 to P500 when they knew pretty well that they (vendors) could easily come to the City Hall to apply for inclusion in the flea market.

As for the stalls, the mayor said that the ven-

dors are free to employ anyone to construct the stalls in accordance with the plans and specifications.

QC ENGINEERING HAS NEW HEAD

QUEZON CITY—Mala-
cañang has designated a new officer-in-charge of the QC engineering department in place of Assistant City Engineer Celso Batallones.

The new OIC is Public Highways District Engr. Pablo Suarez of Manila's south district. Suarez used to occupy the post of assistant city engineer in Quezon City.

According to the report, Engr. Suarez will occupy the post of OIC of the engineering department in a concurrent capacity. This means that he will remain as highways district engineer of the Manila south highways district.

The report also stated that Suarez was designated engineering officer-in-charge of Quezon City because of the ailment of Assistant City Engineer and OIC Batallones.

THE BENEFITS ... (from page 1)

It has also been said that the ideal society is thought of in periods of social despair, as in Plato's Greece. But the nineteenth century was not such a period. It had to mention only the most prominent, H. G. Wells.

But if no serious thinker today speaks of the ideal society, everyone of us — we common mortals — invariably think of an ideal society whenever we consider our own. To be sure, our thinking is often vague and unsystematic, and our ideal order is often reducible into irreducibles such as, if the Customs and BIR people were all honest (though I wonder how some of our business people can cope with this), or if there were no sadists in the military and the police (which, till the end of time, in whatever society, unless we perfect psychiatric tests and discover a drug for the purpose, must admit, granting human fallibility, undetected or even detected sadists). This is like saying that nobody should cheat on his income tax.

Now there are dramatists of dissent who speak facilely of a civil war. They have not seen enough movies or read enough comic books to understand what civil war means. A civil war divides a people on a burning issue, say, slavery. It isn't likely that our people could be divided to the point of civil war over President Marcos; (Page 5, please)

THE BURDEN OF TAXES...

(from page 1)

in 1979. In view of this staggering take, it becomes not only the citizen's right but also his duty to ask — what is the basis for all these increased imposts? Are they necessary? Are they economically justified? Are they legal?

Government has an inherent power to tax — but not without limits, and certainly not against constitutional constraints. The basis for specific taxes on petroleum/oil products were originally embodied in the pertinent provisions in the National Revenue Code. Starting in 1973, however, a series of Presidential Decrees capped by an Executive Order in 1979 have amended said sections:

PD 314 — Increasing the specific tax on gasoline, lubricating oil and automotive diesel oil by amending Secs. 142 and 145 of the NIRC, as amended. (Issued October 20, 1973.)

PD 392 — Increasing the specific tax on kerosene, lubricating oil, gasoline, bunker fuel oil and diesel fuel and imposing specific tax on other refined and manufactured mineral oils by amending Secs. 142, 144 and 145 of the NIRC, as amended. (Issued February 17, 1974.)

PD 436 — Increasing the specific tax on lubricating oils, gasoline, bunker fuel oil, diesel, fuel oil, and other similar petroleum products levied under Secs. 142, 144 and 145 of the NIRC, as amended, and granting provinces and municipalities certain shares in the specific tax on such products. (Issued April 13, 1974.)

PD 874 — Increasing the specific tax on gasoline, diesel fuel oil, bunker fuel oil and other similar petroleum products by further amending Secs. 142, 144 and 145 of the NIRC, as amended. (Issued January 15, 1976.)

PD 1122 — Increasing the specific tax on gasoline, aviation turbo jet fuel, diesel fuel oil, solvents and thinners by further amending Secs. 142, and 145 of the NIRC, as amended. (Issued April 21, 1977.)

Executive Order No. 550—Revising the rates of Specific Taxes on Motor fuel.

These increases are unconstitutional. For the constitution requires that the taxes to be imposed must be progressive, not regressive. A progressive tax is a tax based on ability to pay, like the graduated rates in the income tax schedules. A regressive impost is one which exacts a heavier burden from those with less ability to pay.

According to the defenders of the administration, the specific taxes imposed on petroleum/oil products are progressive because higher rates are assessed for motor gasoline, premium and regular, and relatively lower rates are assessed against diesel, bunker, LPG, kerosene, and aviation fuel — and since consumers who use premium and regular gas

can afford to pay more, they are taxed more on a progressive basis.

DECEPTIVE

The reasoning is deceptive but faulty. For motor gasoline represents only 24% of total consumption while the rest represent 76%. Diesel and bunker fuel alone represent 56% of consumption — and additional taxes imposed on said products necessarily result in heavier burdens for the masses because they are either direct consumers of products like kerosene, LPG, and diesel or are the indirect recipients of additional burdens transferred to them by industrial and commercial producers of commodities.

PD 392 did not only increase the rates of taxes on products directly utilized by people who could afford to pay less like kerosene and LPG — it also changed the tax base of bunker fuel oil under the National Internal Revenue Code from metric ton to per liter of volume capacity basis, and revised the rates upward from P0.40 per metric ton to P0.01 per liter. PD 436 increased the rate from P0.01 to P0.15 per liter while PD 874 further increased the rate from P0.15 to P0.45 per liter. The old tax base in the National Internal Revenue Code was progressive; the change in tax base became regressive and brings greater burdens upon people who have less capacity to pay. Because of this regressive change, the masses had to pay more and revenue collections swelled higher from a mere P1.7 million in 1973 to more than P200 million pesos in 1978.

CHANGE

Again PD 314 changed the base structure on diesel oil under section 156 of the National Internal Revenue Code from P1.00 per metric ton to P0.02 per liter, and imposed a differentiated rate if diesel fuel oil be used for automotive purposes at P0.06 per liter. PD 392 increased the rate to P0.10 per liter, PD 436 further increased the rate from P0.10 to P0.15 per liter. Again a regressive change to the prejudice of those with less capacity to pay.

Furthermore, the power to issue decrees and executive orders on a temporary basis is a tentative grant of police power which bears the same limitations in both the 1935 and 1973 constitutions.

Martial law was declared pursuant to the 1935 constitution of the Philippines. Under that constitution the President, as President and Commander-in-Chief, could legally perform any and all acts to quell the cited rebellion. He could order the military to take action, to seize the rebels to quarter their adherents — to do everything necessary to break the rebellion.

But under that constitution, he could not legislate on matters in no way connected with the rebellion or its peril. He could not, for example, issue a decree legalizing divorce — for that is a subject entirely foreign to the task of curbing rebellion. He could not legislate on commerce, on property, or on additional taxes. For they are subjects alien to the grounds justifying the imposition of martial rule, in no

way connected with public safety that sanctions police power. In short, under the 1935 constitution the President could not change society or invoke economic crisis under cover of martial rule because those areas of reforms properly belong to the legislative arm of the government.

HIGH COURT

In January, 1973, the Supreme Court declared that there existed no judicial obstacle to consider the 1973 constitution in force and effect. In January 1975, the Supreme Court upheld the power of the President to legislate by decree. But that decision notwithstanding, the fact remains (1) that the 1973 provision on martial law is a verbatim reproduction of the 1935 text; (2) that the Supreme Court itself in upholding the power of the President to legislate by decree said that section 3 of the 1973 transitory provisions on Presidential decrees is not a grant of authority to legislate, but a recognition of such power as already existing in favor of the President during the period of Martial Law; (3) that, as in the 1935 constitution, the power of the President to legislate by decree is limited to a restricted form of police power — namely, public safety; (4) that the delegation of power to legislate by decree must be interpreted strictly because martial law has limited objectives disruptive of persons' rights and properties, and, (5) that the power to legislate by decree — in the case of taxes — must adhere to the further limitations imposed by the constitution.

This is especially so when there already exists a law-making body like the Batasang Pambansa which is supposed to represent the people. Yet on August 1, 1970 the President issued Executive Order No. 550 revising the rates of specific taxes on gasoline, totally disregarding the constitutional mandate that it is the national assembly and not he who shall evolve a progressive system of taxation.

Are the increased specific taxes economically justifiable? To answer this properly, one must weigh the past performance of public spending and the objectives of the increased taxes as against the chain effects of higher prices and imposts even as they sap the pocketbooks of taxpayers.

The supposed objectives of the specific taxes at issue are to generate a billion pesos a year to finance the following: P300 million to help cover budgetary deficits; P300 million for non-conventional energy research and development; P400 million for subsidy of mass transport system.

SPEND THRIFT

This is much like the spendthrift pressing his provider for more funds so that he can cover past disbursements and go for bigger projects. For it is a fact that we have today a staggering budget of almost P40 billion pesos. Government spendings in many cases have been wanton and wasteful — and it is fairly estimated that budgetary expenses can be cut down by at least 30 percent. (Page 4, please)



Mayor CUNETETA

creting of five roads, laying down of drainage pipes, extension of water connection from Aurora bringing in of Meralco power lines to the area and sewer lines.

The entire project under Phase 1 will cost P4-million, to be advanced by the National Housing Authority out of the World Bank loan proceeds, the city engineer disclosed.

Phase II will cover the rest of Maricaban, to be undertaken as soon as the first phase is completed, according to the city engineer.

There are 3,366 families to be given home lots in Maricaban. The lots range in area from 36 square meters to 50 square meters. The families to be

WE Classified Ads

LEGAL NOTICES * BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
Pasig, Metro-Manila

SECURITY BANK & TRUST CO.,
Mortgagee,

— versus —

ERLINDA B. VERZOSA, doing
business under the trade name
and style of E. B. VERZOSA ENTERPRISES,
Mortgagor.

EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT
3135, as amended by Act 4118

x — — — — — x

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

WHEREAS, by virtue of a deed of real estate mortgage duly executed and signed in due form on August 22, 1978, by ERLINDA B. VERZOSA, doing business under the trade name and style of E. B. VERZOSA ENTERPRISES, with residence and postal address at No. 1087 Quirino Avenue, La Huerta, Paranaque, Metro-Manila, hereinafter referred to as mortgagor, in favor of SECURITY BANK AND TRUST CO., with principal place of business and postal address at 6778 Ayala Avenue, Makati, Metro-Manila, hereinafter referred to as mortgagee, the former mortgaged to the latter the following real properties together with all the buildings and improvements existing thereon and which are more particularly described as follows, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. S-70033 METRO-MANILA DISTRICT IV

—A parcel of land (Lot 4747.C-1 of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd.146579, being a portion of Lot 4757.C (LRC) Psd.90311, LRC Rec. No. N.29947) situated in the Bo. of San Dionisio, Municipality of Paranaque, Province of Rizal, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the N., and E., points 3 to 4 by 4 to 1 by Lot 4757.C-2 of the subdivision plan; on the S., points 1 to 2 by Lot 4756, Paranaque Cad.; and on the W., points 2 to 3 by Lot 4757.E (LRC) Psd.99311. x x x containing an area of SIX HUNDRED (600) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. S-74296 METRO-MANILA DISTRICT IV

—A parcel of land (Lot 2.A of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd.247500, being a portion of Lot 2, (LRC) Psd.17403, LRC Rec. Nos. N.30331, N.14129, N.28623 and N.18316), situated in the Barrio of Ibayo, Municipality of Paranaque, Province of Rizal, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the E., points 6 to 1, by Lot 2.B; and points 1 to 2 by Lot 2.C, both of the subdivision plan; on the S., and N., points 2 to 4 by Lot 3416; on the W., points 4 to 5 by Lot 3417 both of Paranaque Cadastre; and on the NW., points 5 to 6 by Lot 1, (LRC) Psd.17403. x x x containing an area of FIVE THOUSAND TWELVE (5,012) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. S-74297 METRO-MANILA DISTRICT IV

—A parcel of land (Lot 2.B of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd.247550, being a portion of Lot 2, (LRC) Psd.17403, LRC Rec. Nos. N.30331, N.14129, N.28623 & N.18316), situated in the Barrio of Ibayo, Municipality of Paranaque, Province of Rizal, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the E., points 3 to 4 by Lot 2.D; and points 4 to 5 by Lot 2.E; on the S., points 5 to 1 by Lot 2.C; on the W., points 1 to 2 by Lot 2.A, all of the subdivision plan; and on the NW., points 2 to 3 by Lot 1, (LRC) Psd.17403. x x x containing an area of FIVE THOUSAND SEVENTY SEVEN (5,077) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. S-74298 METRO-MANILA DISTRICT IV

—A parcel of land (Lot 2.F of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd.247550, being a portion of Lot 2, (LRC) Psd.17403, LRC Rec. Nos. N.30331, N.14129, N.28623 & N.18316), situated in the Barrio of Ibayo, Municipality of Paranaque, Province of Rizal, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the N., points 1 to 2 by Lot 2.E of the subdivision plan; on the E., points 2 to 4 by Lot 1, (LRC) Psd.17403; on the SW., points 4 to 6 by Militar Creek (10.00 m. wide); and on the W., points 6 to 1 by Lot 2.C of the subdivision plan. x x x containing an area of FIVE THOUSAND TWENTY FOUR (5,024) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. S-74340 METRO-MANILA DISTRICT IV

—A parcel of land (Lot 4509.A of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd.226756, being a portion of Lot 4509 (AP.13040), Paranaque Cadastre, LRC Rec. Nos. F. Pat.), situated in the Barrio of San Dionisio, Municipality of Paranaque, Province of Rizal, Island of Luzon. Bounded NE., SE., and S., points 1 to 5 by Lot 4509.B of the subdivision plan. x x x containing an area of ONE HUNDRED FOURTEEN (114) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. S-74339 METRO-MANILA DISTRICT IV

—A parcel of land (Lot 14.B of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd.101484, being a portion of Lot 14, Block 2 (LRC) Psd.3791, LRC Rec. No. N.24469), situated in the Barrio of San Dionisio, Municipality of Paranaque, Province of Rizal, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., along points 6 to 7 by Lot 13, Block 2, (LRC) Psd.3791; on the SE., point 7 to 1 by Road Lot 1 (LRC) Psd.3791; on the SW., points 1 and 2 by Lot 14.A of the subdivision plan and on the NW., points 2 to 6 by Lot 4509, Paranaque Cadastre. x x x containing an area of ONE HUNDRED NINETY THREE (193.5) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

WHEREAS, the said mortgagor executed the aforesaid deed of real estate mortgage in order to secure from the mortgagee a loan in the sum of FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND (P580,000.00) PESOS, Philippine Currency;

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of the said mortgage contract were said to have been violated by the mortgagor by her failure to pay the mortgage indebtedness which as of August 15, 1979 in the sum of ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED FORTY NINE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY NINE & 40/100 (P1,149,679.40) PESOS, including interest, service charges and penalties, plus attorney's fees of 10% of the total amount due, exclusive of expenses and collection, costs and expenses of the sale, all secured by said mortgage;

WHEREAS, in order to effect the extra judicial foreclosure of the said deed of real estate mortgage the mortgagor have appointed the mortgagee herein as her attorney-in-fact for the purpose of selling the above-described real properties together with all buildings and improvements existing thereon.

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the power of attorney inserted in the said deed of real estate mortgage and in accordance with the provisions of Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, the Ex-Officio Provincial Sheriff of Rizal, upon a verified petition of the mortgagee aforementioned, hereby announces and gives notice to all interested parties and to the public in general that on October 29, 1979 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, in front of his Office located at the Ground Floor, Hall of Justice Bldg., Provincial Capitol Compound, Pasig, Metro-Manila, he or his authorized deputy will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for CASH, in Philippine Currency the above-described real properties together with all the buildings and improvements existing thereon to satisfy the full amount of mortgage indebtedness, interests, attorney's fees, lawful fees and expenses, plus all the necessary sheriff's fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale.

This Notice of Sheriff's Sale shall be posted for a period of twenty (20) days on three (3) public conspicuous places in Paranaque, Metro-Manila, where the properties are located and on three (3) public conspicuous places in Pasig, Metro-Manila, where the auction sale shall take place. Likewise a copy of this Notice shall be published for same period in the WE, a newspaper of general circulation in Metro-Manila and Rizal Province and edited in Quezon City, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to take place at least twenty (20) days before the date of auction sale.

Note: Prospective buyers or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the property and encumbrances thereon if any there be.

Pasig, Metro-Manila, September 17, 1979

NICANOR G. SALAYSAY
Ex-Officio Provincial Sheriff

BERNARDO J. SAN JUAN
Deputy Sheriff Incharge

Copy furnished:
All parties concerned

Oct. 6, 13, 20, 1979

NOTICE OF EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Mario B. Nollido of No. 2721 Ma. Aurora St., Makati, Metro Manila, who died on July 21, 1979, consisting of a savings deposit with Banco Filipino amounting to P4,987.80, (Savings Account No. 0818.02926.4), has been extra-judicially settled by his heirs before Notary Public Domingo A. Mendez, per Doc. No. 486, Page No. 99, Book No. X, Series of 1979, in Manila.

Oct. 6, 13, 20, 1979.

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

The estate of the spouses Valentin Meneses and Dionisia Sampitan who both died on July 18, 1945 and February 2, 1941 respectively, in the City of Manila, Philippines has been Extrajudicially settled by their heirs as per Doc. No. 2604; Page No. 522; Book No. XXXVIII; Series of 1979 of Notary Public Vicente M. Magpoc.

Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 1979.

THE BURDEN

(from page 3)

cent without diminishing the quantity and quality of public services. That could mean a savings of twelve billion pesos, and even if reduced by only ten percent, would free the masses from having to carry the burden of more taxes. Furthermore, the objectives of research and subsidy for mass transport, while laudable in themselves, should be financed from other sources, not from taxes that regressively prejudice the masses. Profits from government controlled corporations like the PHIVIDEC, from service contracts of oil operations from government sponsored foundation like the Meralco, from gambling casinos that have proliferated in the big cities — are all potential sources for such fundings. We should not tap revenues from petroleum products because they trigger a chain reaction of in-

creased prices in other goods, essentially involving the basic commodities of life. Increased petroleum prices mean increases in the price of light, water, food, housing, construction — wreaking havoc upon the real incomes of people, especially the low income class because of their absolutely smaller money incomes. The common man is caught in a squeeze play — between the diminishing price of the peso and sustained inflation. The purchasing value of the peso today stands at only 38 centavos while the prices of petroleum products went up by 34.08 percent in August 1979.

SUBSIDY

Finally, why plan on a subsidy for the future when it is the present which cries out for support? Why squeeze from Juan today what he can hardly pay, pre-

(Page 5, please)

Republic of the Philippines
COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE OF RIZAL
BRANCH IV — QUEZON CITY
IN RE: INTESTATE ESTATE OF
THE DECEASED FERNANDO P. GANCAYCO,
SP. PROC. NO. Q-28398
FERNANDO K. GANCAYCO, JR.,
Petitioner.

x — — — — — x

ORDER

A verified petition has been filed by the above-named petitioner thru counsel, praying that he be appointed administrator of the estate of the deceased Fernando P. Gancayco, who allegedly died intestate on February 18, 1979 while a resident of Quezon City, leaving real and personal properties with a probable value of not less than P300,000.00.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that said petition will be heard on November 9, 1979 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning before this Court sitting at the 6th Floor, New City Hall Building, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, on which date and time any person may appear and show cause why the aforesaid petition should not be granted.

Let this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner in the WE, a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Rizal and in this City once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, to which newspaper this Order was assigned after a raffle duly held pursuant to Rep. Act 4569, as amended by Rep. Act 4883, and further amended by Presidential Decree No. 19 dated October 11, 1972.

SO ORDERED.

Quezon City, Philippines, October 1, 1979.

RICARDO P. TENSUAN
Judge

Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 1979.

Republic of the Philippines
Ministry of Public Works, Transportation
and Communications
BUREAU OF POSTS
Manila

SWORN STATEMENT (Required by Act 2580)

The undersigned, JOSE G. BURGOS, JR., editor-publisher of WE, published weekly in English-Pilipino, at 19 Road 3, Project 6, Q.C., after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law, hereby submits the following statement of ownership, management, circulation, etc., which is required by Act 2580, as amended by Commonwealth Act No. 201.

NAME:	ADDRESS:
Editor: JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.	70 S. Laktaw, Q.C.
Business Manager:	
REMEDIOS BURGOS	19 Road 3, Proj. 6, Q.C.
Owner: JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.	70 S. Laktaw, Q.C.
Publisher: JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.	70 S. Laktaw, Q.C.
Printer: METRO MAIL PRESS	19 Road 3, Proj. 6, Q.C.
Office of Publication:	19 Road 3, Proj. 6, Q.C.

In case of publication other than daily, total number of copies printed and circulated of the last issue dated Oct. 6, 1979.

1. Sent to paid subscribers	14,500
2. Sent to others than paid subscribers	1,000

TOTAL 15,500

(Sgd.) JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.
Publisher-Editor

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 9th day of October, 1979, at the City of Manila, the affiant exhibiting his Residence Certificate No. 4699186 issued at Q.C. on Jan. 19, 1979.

(Sgd.) BIENVENIDO J. MEDEL
Notary Public
PTR No. 9130912

Doc. No. 683
Book No. 1
Series of 1979
Page No. 136

of these trials.

And it is for that that I extend to them now my heartfelt and sincere congratulations. I know that the agony they have gone through — and continue to endure — has made their love stronger and their marriage happier. I also know that it has matured them both and brought them closer to God.

My dear brothers and sisters: After this little ceremony, Ninoy will go back to the little room that he has called home these past seven years. Others will probably call it a prison cell, for that is what it is. Let me tell you, however, that while it may be heavily guarded day and night, while it may restrict Ninoy's physical activities, it has not in any manner succeeded in imprisoning the free spirit that is Ninoy.

And it is in this sense that Ninoy — and to a lesser extent, Cory — is so different from so many of our countrymen today. Let me explain:

Ninoy is a prisoner, yes; he cannot go anywhere except with the permission of higher authorities and then only with a platoon of "bodyguards" in constant attendance, yes. But what Ninoy has lost is only physical freedom. Insofar as that other freedom that truly matters is concerned, and I refer to moral freedom, he is completely free.

In one way or another, he can still manage to voice out his beliefs; he still manages to bear witness to the truth. Unlike many of us, he is not afraid to speak out. And it is for this that, in the eyes of many Filipinos, he has come to embody what is best, what is good and true and courageous, in the Filipino character.

How different he is from other Filipinos who have not lost their physical freedom but who have become timid and cowardly where moral freedom is concerned! There are those among us who have accumulated great wealth or immense power. But we have become so enslaved by this wealth and this power that we are afraid they will be taken away from us. So what do we do? We build high walls around our homes, we hire security men to protect us. Little do we realize that when we build a wall to protect us from others, we are literally walling ourselves in, we are building a prison of our own making. And when this happens, we become afraid to meet the truth face-to-face, we are hemmed in and constrained, and we must always look on our fellowmen with suspicion and fear.

But not Ninoy, certainly not Ninoy. In a country where a great number are in a prison of their own making, he has remained a free man, an untrammelled spirit, afraid of no one, ashamed of nothing that he has done. With all my

heart and soul, I look up to him in admiration and pride. I am proud to be called his friend.

And so, on this the twenty-fifth year of his marriage to the beautiful and sweet Cory, I tell him to bear in mind always the words of Christ: "Come to me all ye who are burdened, and I will refresh you."

A happy wedding anniversary to both of you. May you have many more and may the circumstances be happier.

God bless you and remember, I love you all very dearly.

THE BENEFITS

(from page 1)

if so, it will be the first civil war in history to break out over a man. I am afraid that the dramatists of dissent really mean revolution but are afraid of saying so. One wonders if they understand what any of these means in terms of human suffering, slaughter and social, moral, and economic retrogression. They, who so rant and rave against power, have no better solution than bloody power.

If there is anything our history has taught us since the Revolution of 1898, it is the urgency of a revolution in political and social attitudes — let us call it by its old name, 'moral values.' If there are abuses of power, it is because this revolution has yet to take place. And yet wasn't that in the air, that true revolution, in the early days of martial law? This is evident when on second year of martial law, President Marcos spoke of a "moral transformation."

It is this moral transformation that we are beginning to miss, and whatever our prejudices, we cannot lay all the blame on the crisis leadership. Society is a contractual thing. We get from it only what we give to it. Marcos the man and the leader can exercise all his powers under this crisis, but it will not matter much if we do not consent by commitment and action to the ideals and vision of the New Society. If we cannot understand this, then someone, someday will come to herd us like the cattle we shall have become.

The authentic revolution therefore, is an internal revolution.

If we have no better cure for the ills which plague us than to change Marcos, then we're in really bad shape as a people.

Let me conclude with a recollection of one of the less noticed but most revealing speeches made by President Marcos before the Philippine Constitutional Association three years ago. In that speech, President Marcos told his audience of constitutionalists and lawyers that he wanted to build, in the course of his leadership, a democratic society in which a Marcos would neither be desirable nor necessary. For such a society which can dispense with a strong leader will indeed be a strong society.

The New Society is precisely the road of it. Isn't that worth our concern and support? After all, the ideal society you want may be your own.

THE SACRAMENT

(from page 1)

quires a singular significance: It was here where the Martial Law administration political forces were marshalled and concentrated for the April election; here is the seat of the Martial Law government; here we have the biggest and most awesome concentration of the Martial Law-controlled and owned media — television, radio, newspapers — in the last election campaign mobilized exclusively to sell the administration official candidates, the KBL (Kilusang Bagong Lipunan).

It is in Metro Manila where all the headquarters of all the branches of the armed forces (which have propped up the Martial Law Government) are established, and here, the Martial Law administration fielded its strongest candidates, headed no less than by the Metro Manila Governor and wife of the Head of State, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos. Here in the election in Metro Manila Pres. Ferdinand E. Marcos handpicked the best campaign manager in his political group — himself.

Never in our political history has the administration party mounted an election campaign, so rich in resources, so superior in forces, so intimidating in posture and power. The contest between the KBL and LABAN in the April election was the most uneven battle since David fought Goliath.

Ferdinand E. Marcos, the seasoned politico, had a compelling reason for stacking all the political cards in favor of his KBL candidates in the Metro Manila election. For the first time in six years, his Martial Law government would be put to a test in the first election held under the Martial Rule.

The stakes were very high. A KBL victory in Metro Manila, the seat of the government, the heart of the Philippines, where one finds the densest concentration of people and the largest number or educated Filipinos, would mean acceptance by the Filipino people of his martial law government. A defeat in Metro Manila would be the ultimate rebuff, the clinching evidence that his Martial Law government had been rejected by the people. The sum of which is devastating denial of what all these six years he had so passionately sought from the people — the mantle of legitimacy for his martial law regime.

Nothing could have more effectively silenced his critics abroad than a clear-cut election victory in Metro Manila. And nothing could have justified more their scorn for his dictatorship than a beating at the polls in the nation's capital.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



THE TIME

(from page 1)

tions — were taken over by army units. Mass action was outlawed. Labor lost its right to strike in "vital industries." Critics, dissenters, and political rivals were arrested and hauled to army prison camps. "The proclamation of martial law is not a military takeover", declared Mr. Marcos in September 1972 — but that is exactly what happened. Not only are key positions in the government occupied by the military; the mass media, public utilities and an ever-growing list of private corporations and commercial entities fell under the control and ownership of the planners of martial law, their relatives and associates.

CHANGED ROLE OF THE MILITARY

The result of the imposition of martial law, just one year before Mr. Marcos' unextendable term of office in 1973, has been the establishment of a dictatorship, actively supported by the military. Instead of defending the people against aggression — their traditional, legitimate role — the Armed Forces shifted their principal function to the support and defense of the dictatorship.

We recognize that the military has a legitimate role in a free society — that of defending the people against aggression. But when the Armed Forces, with some exceptions, make it their main business to support a dictatorship, and the dictator in turn pampers the military, a host of undesirable consequences inevitably ensue: uncontrolled corruption, brazen abuse of power, gross violations of basic human rights, distortion of priorities, diversion of resources, and the prolongation of the crisis to justify indefinite martial rule and increasing militarization.

It has been argued that Mr. Marcos is a civilian and the principle of civilian supremacy is being observed.

The argument overlooks the fact that Mr. Marcos is the most essential part of today's military apparatus. Not only is he the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces; he has become dependent on the military for his own survival. In turn, the military is dependent on him for its privilege position. Because of Mr. Marcos' military background, he is claimed by the military as its very own.

If the Philippines faces an external threat, there could be a justification for the predominant role of the military. But Filipino and American military officials agree that there is no perceived threat of external invasion.

Hence, in the view of Mr. Marcos and his military supporters,

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EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that on Oct. 12, 1979, the heirs of the deceased Ceferino Soriano have extrajudicially settled his estate under Doc No. 102, Page No. 22, Book No. 191 Series of 1979 of Notary Public Salvador R. Aguinaldo of the City of Manila, over a parcel of land situated at Bull, Muntinlupa, Metro Manila covered by TCT No. 7045, Book No. T-32, Page No. 45 of the Land Records of Rizal.

Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 1979

IN DEFENSE OF

(from page 1)

minds and hearts of most of our people. People are seeing more and more the futility of martial law, and more and more people are getting restive. So we applaud a Cardinal who can speak out what he reads in the minds of the people and what he has been told by the many many who go to him.

But people who pontificate in newspaper columns and from positions of authority say that the Cardinal is out of order for making statements like that.

Really we do not understand why.

Why may the Cardinal not speak out and say what he believes to be for the welfare of his people? He believes that if President Marcos does not work out an early and orderly transition back to democracy there will be bloodshed. As human being and as pastor of his flock, he does not want violence. So he tells the President what he thinks he ought to do to prevent violence. What is wrong with that?

Is he wrong because he is concerned for our welfare? If he is not concerned about us, then he should not be a Cardinal.

Is he wrong because he spoke out his thoughts? And gave advice? The Cardinal is a bishop, and precisely, bishops are supposed to teach, to preach, to give advice.

When Justice Antonio Barredo spoke before the Rotary Club of Cubao on September 5, 1979, he advocated the full return of democratic processes and stated that the present abnormal state of affairs is serving as a dangerous example for the country's youth and may instill in them the idea that the present regime is the best system.

We are not aware that anyone publicly questioned his right to make such a statement. If Justice Barredo can speak out as a citizen, why can't the Cardinal do the same not only as a private citizen but as the Shepherd of his flock?

Since so much space has been given to criticisms of the Cardinal's statement, we trust that you will extend to us the same opportunity to have our letter published in full.

Yours truly,

CECILIA MUNOZ-PALMA

ZENAIDA QUEZON AVANCENA

For: THE CONCERNED WOMEN OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MANILA

PUBLISHER'S NOTES

(from page 2)

could not make it to Peking, 1,500 miles away, the hijackers agreed to a refueling stop at Hongkong, where the plane landed with just three minutes of fuel to spare.

"After allowing 20 of the 44 passengers to disembark, the hijackers ordered the pilot to take off again, but agreed to a closer destination: Canton, 90 miles away. Surprised officials at White Cloud Airport fed the passengers, including four Americans, and put them up overnight in a nearby barracks. The next morning, Chinese authorities sent plane and passengers winging home — minus the six hijackers.

"Subdued Scourges. The incident, the first successful skyjacking to China, was symptomatic of the heightened violence that seems to have overtaken the often violent Philippines. The country is more than usually beset by economic, political and social ills — and by the guns of extremists. The old scourges of the islands, the Huk, have been so cut up by government raids that they now amount to little more than a Mafia-like bunch of 'protection' racketeers. But on Luzon, several hundred members of a Maoist New People's Army wage intermittent guerrilla war against the central government. On Mindanao, some 2,000 people died during the past year in clashes between private armies of Christians and Moslems over land and timber holdings. In Manila, during the last three months, leftist students allied with striking workers have staged a series of demonstrations, which left nine people dead and hundreds injured.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

THE BURDEN

(from page 4)

mized upon some hazy promise of subsidy in the distant future? Why not subsidize kerosene, and LPG, and diesel and bunker oil today — instead of bludgeoning the populace with additional taxes.

There is speculation that the prices of petroleum will again increase in the near future. Will government

blight this burden with more taxes — or will it ease the people's load by revising this source of regressive revenue? We should as citizens unite and demand:

1. That government reexamine and reconsider the further imposition of specific taxes of petroleum/oil products;

2. That all further consideration of revenue measures be consolidated in the Bataasang Pambansa where the people will at least have a forum to express their views;

3. That a citizen's committee be organized to work with government towards fiscal reforms with sufficient authority to devise and tap other sources of funding in lieu of the regressive taxes on petroleum.

The people have a right and the government a duty to work for a better life.

KURO-KURO

Nagtatanong ang mga tao

ni FRANCISCO 'SOC' RODRIGO



Milyon-milyong piso na naman ang gastos sa pagtungo ng Unang Ginang sa United Nations (UN) sa New York. Ito ay salapi ng bayan . . . kaya't ang taongbayan ay may karapatang magtatanong —

— Kallangan bang ang Unang Ginang ay laging magtatalumpati sa UN? Ika-apat na beses na ito! Bakit hindi ipatungkol ito sa ating Minister of Foreign Affairs, Carlos P. Romulo, o sa ating Permanent Representative sa UN, Embahador Alejandro Yango? Makatitipid tayo ng milyon-milyon.

— Bakit napakaraming tao ang mga kabuntot ng Unang Ginang? Bakit kallangang kasama ang malaking grupo ng "propaganda corps"? Ito ba'y para sa bayan o para sa sariling pasikat lamang?

Ang mga mamamayan ay kasalukuyang dumaranas ng matinding hirap. Kaya't nagtatanong, nagtataka . . . at nagdaramdam.

Tumbalik ang patakaran ng gobyerno sa pagbaka sa komunismo. Ito'y pinapangit ngunit pinagaganda. . .

Ipinaresto ang mga patnugot ng Philippine Collegian (peryodiko ng mga estudyante sa U.P.) at ilan pang mga student leaders. Ipinaresto rin ang mga lider ng Ugnayan (kapsanan ng mga maralitang taga-lungsod). Ang bintang? Mga komunista raw.

At ang sinomang pumuna sa mga abuso ng mga pinuno o magmalasakit sa mga karapatan ng mga aping taongbayan ay binibintangang komunista o kasangkapan ng komunista.

Kung ganyan ang propaganda, ano ang lalipin ng tao? Aba, ang mga komunista lamang pala ang may lakas ng loob na manindigan para sa kapakanan at karapatan ng taongbayan.

Hindi baka't tumbalik ang patakarang iyan ng pamahalaan? Hindi sana bale kung batay sa katotohanan. Ngunit, hindi. Ang totoo ay mga alagad ng demokrasya ang karamihan ng nagtatanggol at naninindigan para sa bayan. At, dahil diyan, kinontra nila ang martial law at diktadura ni Marcos.

Ang taktika naman ni Marcos — mailigtas lang ang sarili — ay bansagan silang komunista o kasangkapan nito. Sa madaling sabi, ang tunay na ipinagmamalasakit ni Marcos ay hindi ang bayan o ang demokrasya, kundi ang sarili. Kaya't kahit tumbalik ang resulta para sa demokrasya, hindi bale para sa kanya.

Totohanan ba ang malimit ipahayag na pag-usig sa mga grafter sa pamahalaan? Hindi kumbinsido ang bayan.

Hindi maniniwala ang bayan hangga't hindi nakikitang may mga "malalaki" at "malalakas" na naparusa-han.

Hindi sapat ang basta't alisin lamang sa puwesto o tanggapin ang dimisyon. Hindi iyan parusa sa opisyal na kumamal na ng kayamanan. Matutuwa pa nga siya marahil, sapagkat makapagpapasarap na siya nang husto sa kanyang kinupit na kuwarta.

At, hindi magsisilbing leksyon iyan upang mapigil ang ibang mga opisyal

sa paggawa ng graft. Wala silang sukat ikatakot. Sapat na pala ang malalis lamang sa puwesto, matapos na kumamal ng maruming kayamanan. Okey lang sa kanila iyan.

Ang lumalakad nang marahan, matinik man ay mababaw.

Ito ay isang katangian ng demokrasya. Ang bawa't importanteng hakbang ay pinagaaralan, sinusuri at pinagtatalunan muna bago pasiyahan.

Ang isang batas, halimbawa, bago pagtibayin at pairalin, ay inilalathala muna, bilang panukalang-batas (bill). Ang bayan ay binibigyan ng sapat na panahon at pagkakataong makapagbigay ng opinyon. Pinagtatalunan iyan ng mga kinatawag halal ng bayan sa lehislatura. Sinusuri ang magiging epekto ng bill sa iba't ibang sektor ng bansa. Nireremedyuhan ang mga depekto. Sinususugan. Saka pa lamang pinagtatibay.

Sa diktadura, mabilis nga ang takbo. Ngunit, pabigla-bigla naman. Pasumpong-sumpong pa kung minsan.

Ang mga dekreto ay basta't pairalin na lamang. Walang babala. Walang pagkakataon ang bayan na magbigay ng opinyon. Hindi nasusuri ang maaaring maging epekto ng bill sa iba't ibang pangkat ng mga mamamayan. Binibigla ang bayan.

Kapag ipinasusunod na ang dekreto ay saka lamang makikita ang mga depekto. Saka lamang hahanap ng remedyo. Ngunit, nangyari na ang perhuwisyo.

Ang isang halimbawa nito ay ang dekreto sa Urban Land Reform. Mainam sana ang layunin nito, ngunit palso ang naging prosedimyento ng pagpapalral.

Kaya't ang unang binubunga nito ay kapinsalaan, embes na kabutihan. Natutuliro ang bayan. Hindi malaman kung ano ang puno't dulo ng dekreto iyan. Ni walang makapagdulot ng tiyak na paliwanag.

Ang lahat ay nangangamba. Walang gustong kumilos. Hindi malaman kung ano ang mga detalye nito.

Ang ganyang alanganing katayuan ay lason sa negosyo at ekonomiya ng bansa. Iyan ang kinatakatutan ng mga investors at businessmen. Walang kapanatagan.

Kaya't, mabagal man nang kaunti ang demokrasya, mas panatag naman.

May pumuna na si Manglapus daw ay waring galit noong sinusulat ang kanyang liham kay Marcos.

Tila nga. Ngunit, ang magalit ay hindi masama . . . kung makatarungang pagkagalit (righteous indignation).

Maging si Kristo ay nagalit sa mga mapag-balat kayong Pariseo at sa mga komersyanteng sumasalaula sa templo. Makatarungang galit!

Masama kapag ang tao ay hindi marunong magalit . . . kahit dinudusta, inaaliplan, nilililang, pinagsasamantalahan. Iyan ay diwang busabos.

At masama rin kapag nagagalit man, ay takot namang kumilos o umilik man lamang. Iyan ay diwang duwang.

THE TIME

(from page 5)

bordinates, the major problem is not invasion but subversion. Subversion disturbs "law and order" and is therefore a threat to "national security". But it is a fair question to ask whether what is actually endangered is the security of Mr. Marcos, his relatives, and his associates — not the security of the nation.

Having abandoned its traditional role, the Armed Forces now seek to preserve the status quo, curtail dissent, and prevent social and economic changes desired by the masses of our people.

SUBVERSION AND THE MILITARY BUILD-UP

Subversion is the underlying rationale for the phenomenal build-up of the Armed Forces.

Let us look at the facts.

At the start of martial law, there were only 12 combat battalions. There are now 60 combat battalions.

In 1972, there were only 50,000 members of the regular Armed Forces; now, there are around 200,000 officers and men. The plan is to increase it to 275,000 men.

In addition, 45,000 civilian policemen have been integrated into the national police organization, the Philippine Constabulary.

At the start of 1979, the controlled media announced that around 400,000 young men had completed basic and advanced military training courses in Barangay brigades throughout the country. (January 1, 1979, Bulletin Today).

(TO BE CONTINUED)

TO RELEASE

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including top opposition leader led by ex-Pres. Diosdado Macapagal. Manila Archbishop Jaime L. Cardinal Sin, officiated in the anniversary mass. (See related story this issue).

Commenting on the overnight pass and the celebrations, Teodoro F. Valencia, in his Daily Express column last Oct. 13, said: "On the basis of what appeared in the papers about the furlough given former Sen. Aquino, what he said, what his wife said and what President Marcos said, you can bet that things are going great in that negotiations for the release of Aquino. It's only a matter of time now. As a friend of Ninoy, I am happy for him. The country will be the beneficiary in any successful conclusion of this negotiation."

The clamor for the release of Aquino, who is considered the No. 1 political rival of President Marcos, has been gaining momentum since early this year. A campaign to free Aquino through the solicitation of one million signatures from concerned Filipinos has, in fact, been launched by a non-partisan group of citizens. Several colleagues of Aquino in the defunct Senate, former congressmen and Constitutional Convention delegates and religious leaders, including Cardinal Sin, have been agitating for Aquino's freedom.

The former Tarlac senator was one of the first persons arrested when Marcos declared martial law on Sept. 21, 1972. He has been detained since

REGRESSION

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sion worth noting. In 1960, 12.1% of the labor force was in the Manufacturing sector. By 1975, this had been reduced to 11.4%, and, by 1976, to 10.9%. This is unmistakable evidence of regression because an economy that is developing should have a Manufacturing sector which increasingly absorbs a rising percentage of the labor force.

The statistics do show that over the period 1960-1976 more and more of our labor force, percentage wise, was shifting away from productive Manufacturing and drifting towards those sectors of the economy that are not directly involved in the production of goods. An increasing percentage of the labor force has been going to Commerce, Government, Recreation and Domestic Services. (See Table 8)

Table 8.

% Distribution Of Employed Persons By Industry Group				
	1960	1965	1975	1976
Manufacturing	12.1	10.9	11.4	10.9
Commerce	8.8	11.0	11.2	12.1
Government, Community & Recreational Services	5.0	7.0	9.8	9.7
Domestic Services	3.8	5.0	5.4	6.1

Source: 1978 Philippine Statistical Yearbook, (NEDA), pp. 44-45

If, according to the Asian Wall Street Journal, the share of Manufacturing in 1978 was lower than its share of the national output in 1975, then it is most likely that by 1978, the Manufacturing sector accounted for a lesser percentage share of the labor force than it did in 1975.

What assurance under the NEDA Plan do we have that the economy will not keep on regressing, instead of developing as planned.

The intriguingly modest objectives of the NEDA Plan

Usually, development plans, or any plan for that matter, make it a point to aim high, to set high targets. The NEDA Plan is exceptional in the exceptional modesty of its targets. Considering that the race for economic development has become a race for survival, dictated by the needs of a large population that continues to increase at a substantial rate, as well as by the comparative performance of neighboring economies, there is reason to be profoundly disturbed by NEDA's unbecoming modesty. What the NEDA document amounts to, for all practical purposes, is a planned prolongation of our country's under-developed condition. It represents a plan of restrained development for the Philippine economy. The possible rationale for the modesty of NEDA's Objectives

If NEDA's planned pace of development for the Philippine economy is intriguingly slow, gradual and modest, a possible explanation for it may be found in a significant and revealing article by the prestigious Japanese economist, Dr. Saburo Okita, which was published by the equally prestigious "Foreign Affairs", in its Summer 1979 issue, a publication of the highly influential Council on Foreign Relations of the United States.

Dr. Okita's article was titled "Japan, China and the United States; Economic Relations and Prospects". In that article, Dr. Okita took note of the rising hostility entertained by United States and European interests against the fast and rapid industrialization of Taiwan and South Korea. As Dr. Okita's article observed:

"This brings us directly to the problem of rapidly industrializing nations and their increasing exports of manufactured goods. In Europe these countries are known as NICs (Newly Industrialized Countries) whereas in the United States they are sometimes referred to as the "New Japan", as we saw earlier in the Jones Report. In any event, the emergence of these countries is often interpreted as an inimical and disturbing element in the world economy, particularly for the industrialized nations." (p. 1101)

While Dr. Okita, in his article, explained that the development of these "New Japans" is inevitable, he offered a revealing prescription. He counseled that

"The newly industrializing countries also have responsibilities. They must proceed at a gradual pace in order to allow time for the advanced nations to adjust." (p. 1102)

Dr. Okita, aside from being Chairman of the Japanese Economic Research Center, is a Member of the U.N. Committee for Development Planning, and was at one time Member of the World Bank's Pearson Commission relating to international development. This, according to the biographical footnote in his article.

Considering the internationalist inclination and thrust of NEDA's development philosophy, its readiness to accept the views of economic experts from advanced countries, particularly from the United States and Japan, and international financial institutions dominated by these countries, its gradualistic approach to Philippine economic development should not really have come as a surprise.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

and was allowed to go outside his Fort Bonifacio cell only on five other occasions.

Earlier negotiations for Aquino's release were conducted last year and reports said that one of the conditions was for Aquino

to go to the United States where a teaching job awaited him. The negotiations bogged down.

Two weeks ago, another negotiation was renewed and WE sources said that this time, kinks are being ironed out over the conditions of Aquino's release.